(c) As per the information received from Andhra Pradesh, periodical observations on the monthly reports by Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (APERC) since 2005-06 regarding poor power fluctuations in Andhra Pradesh are nil. However, it made an observation on the following issues:

(i) Response to normal fuse of calls;

(ii) Meter related complaints;

(iii) Billing mistakes; and

(iv) Category change and title transfer request.

(d) The various measures taken to address the problem of power fluctuations include commissioning of sub-stations, adding of new distribution transformers, commissioning of capacitor banks and reducing the length of feeder lines by inserting intermediate poles and distribution transformers etc.

Use of fly ash generated by Thermal Stations

856. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) thermal stations are generating nearly 34 MTA of fly ash per annum;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the fly ash comprises of un-burnt carbon, cenospheres, alumino-silicate aggregates, magnetite and/or hematite;

(c) whether all these constituents, if properly separated and recovered have commercial value and could give huge profits to NTPC which may help it to reduce the cost of power; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to start processing units by NTPC or by private operators?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) NTPC's thermal stations are generating nearly 39 million tonnes of fly ash per annum.

(b) Fly ash comprises of very low quantities of un-burnt carbon, cenospheres, quartz, mullite, magnetite and/or hematite.

(c) and (d) Presently, no techno-economically viable methods are available to separate these constituents from fly ash.

Investment ceiling of joint power ventures

857. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have moved a proposal to do away with the existing Rs. 1000 crore investment ceiling applicable to Public Sector Units for forming joint ventures;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and